

University of Saskatchewan
Department of English
Ph.D. Field Examination

Ph.D. candidates take this examination to establish that they have sufficient understanding to do advanced research and teaching in a specific field.

Field examinations are conducted twice yearly: in October and May. At least four months before examination, students must inform the Graduate Chair in writing of their intention to sit the examination.

Ph.D. students are to take this examination in May of the second year of the program or October of the third. The examination will be set and marked by three faculty specialists in the area that has been chosen by the candidate.

The following lists comprise the areas in which the Department of English has set readings for Ph.D. candidates: American, Commonwealth/Postcolonial, English-Canadian, Literary Theory, Literature by Women, Medieval, Modern British, Nineteenth-Century British, Renaissance, and Restoration/Eighteenth Century. Each candidate is either to select one of the areas listed here or to propose an examination in an area for which a list is not already set. The set lists themselves are not exhaustive; each is to be taken as two-thirds of the reading to be undertaken for the examination, the final third to be drafted by the candidate in consultation with the supervisor. At least three months before examination, this list will be submitted to the candidate's Examining Committee for approval.

A candidate may choose to be examined in an area for which there is no list. Should this option be chosen, the candidate (in consultation with the supervisor) will propose an area to the Graduate Committee at least six months before the examination is to be taken. If the Graduate Committee accepts the proposal and if three faculty members are willing to serve as examiners, the candidate (in consultation with the supervisor) will prepare a reading list comparable in dimensions to those in areas for which set lists exist. At least three months before the examination is to be taken, this reading list is to be submitted to the Examining Committee for approval.

The candidate may write the examination either on one day (9:00-12:00, 1:30-5:00) or in two three-hour blocks on successive days. No less than a week and no more than two weeks after writing this examination, the candidate will attend an oral examination of no more than two hours' duration. This oral examination will be convened by the Graduate Chair, and conducted by the three faculty examiners who set the written portion. In this oral examination, special attention will be paid to the candidate's own contributions to the reading list, especially as they relate to the candidate's dissertation topic.

The written and oral components of the Ph.D. Field Examination are of equal value, and a composite grade is given. The grade will be given as one of the three following: Pass with Distinction, Pass, and Fail. If a Fail is given, the candidate must take the examination at the next time scheduled. If repetition of the examination is necessary, usually both the written and oral parts are required; the examining committee has discretion to require, however, that only the oral be retaken.

LITERARY THEORY

This list is in three parts. The first and second parts given here specify works which all students specializing in theory must know. The third part will be determined by the needs and interests of particular candidates, in light of the fact that the past three decades have seen a remarkable increase in the number and complexity of works of literary theory, and no student ought to be made responsible for all of this material.

Set texts

Plato, *Ion, Republic, Cratylus, Phaedrus*

Aristotle, *The Poetics*

Longinus, *On the Sublime*

Sir Philip Sidney, *An Apology for Poetry*

Selections from the work of Dryden, Addison, Johnson, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Shelley, Arnold, Woolf, T.S. Eliot, Richards, Leavis, Brooks Warren, Wimsatt, available in anthologies such as those edited by Hazard Adams or Walter Jackson Bate

George Eliot, *Selected Essays...*, ed. Byatt and Warren (1990)

Ferdinand de Saussure, *Course in General Linguistics*, trans. Bally and Sechehaye (1966)

Sigmund Freud, "The Interpretation of Dreams," *Introductory Lectures on Psychoanalysis*, trans. Strachey (1963)

William Empson, *Seven Types of Ambiguity* (1930)

F.R. Leavis, *The Great Tradition* (1948)

Georg Lukacs, *The Historical Novel* (1962)

Walter Benjamin, *Illuminations* (1968)

Eric Auerbach, *Mimesis: The Representation of Reality in Western Literature* (1953)

Simone de Beauvoir, selections from *The Second Sex* (1949)

Jean Paul Sartre, *What is Literature?* (1950)

Harold Innis, *The Strategy of Culture* (1952)

Northrop Frye, *Anatomy of Criticism* (1957)

Lee Lemon and Reis, eds., *Russian Formalist Criticism: Four Essays* (1965)

Mikhail Bakhtin, *The Dialogic Imagination* (1981)

Roland Barthes, *Elements of Semiology* (1967)

Stephen Heath *et al.*, eds., *Signs of the Times: Introductory Readings in Textual Semiotics* (1971)

Kaja Silverman, *The Subject of Semiotics* (1983)

Umberto Eco, *The Open Work* (1989)

Louis Athusser, *Lenin and Philosophy* (1972)

E.P. Thompson, *The Poverty of Theory* (1978)

Michel Foucault, *The Archaeology of Knowledge* (1972) **and** *Power/Knowledge* (1980)

Paul Ricoeur, *The Rule of Metaphor: Multidisciplinary Studies of the Creation of Meaning in Language* (1978)

Richard Palmer, *Hermeneutics* (1969)

Jane Tompkins, ed., *Reader-Response Criticism* (1980)

Paul De Man, *Blindness and Insight*, 2nd ed. (1982) **and** *The Resistance to Theory* (1986)

Jacques Derrida, *Of Grammatology* (1979), *Dissemination* (1981), **and** *Given Time I: Counterfeit Money* (1992)

Barbara Johnson, *The Critical Difference* (1980)

Frederic Jameson, *The Political Unconscious* (1981)

Elizabeth Wright, ed., *Psychoanalytic Literary Criticism* (1984)

Malcolm Bowie, *Psychoanalysis and the Future of Theory* (1993)

Hal Foster, ed., *The Anti-Aesthetic: Essays on Postmodern Culture* (1983)

Linda Hutcheon, *A Poetics of Postmodernism: History, Theory, Fiction* (1988)

John Fekete, ed., *Life after Postmodernism: Essays on Value and Culture* (1988)

Terry Eagleton, *Literary Theory: An Introduction* (1983)

Robert Von Hallberg, ed., *Canons* (1984)

Robert Lecker, ed., *Canadian Canons: Essays in Literary Value* (1992)

Elaine Showalter, ed., *The New Feminist Criticism* (1985)

Toril Moi, *Sexual/Textual Poetics*

Hélène Cixous and Catherine Clement, *The Newly Born Woman* (1986)

W.J.T. Mitchell, ed., *The Politics of Interpretation* (1993)

Edward Said, *Orientalism* (1979) **and** *Culture and Imperialism* (1993)

Henry Louis Gates, ed., "Race," *Writing, and Difference* (1986)

Rosemary Hennessy, *Materialist Feminism and the Politics of Discourse* (1988)

Diana Fuss, *Essentially Speaking: Feminism, Nature and Difference* (1989)

Judith Butler, *Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity* (1990)

Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick, *The Epistemology of the Closet* (1990)

Jonathan Dollimore, *Sexual Dissidence* (1991)

Steven Connor and Douglas Kellner, eds., *Theory and Cultural Value* (1992)

Ralph Cohen, ed., *The Future of Literary Theory* (1989)

Anthony Easthope, *Literary into Cultural Studies* (1991)

Greenblatt and Gunn, eds., *Redrawing the Boundaries* (1992)

Historical and Disciplinary

Chris Baldick, *The Social Mission of English Criticism 1848-1932* (1983)

Seyla Benhabib, *Critique, Norm, Utopia: A Study of the Foundations of Critical Theory* (1986)

Paul Bove, *Intellectuals in Power: A Genealogy of Critical Humanism* (1986)

Peter Dixon, *Rhetoric* (1971)

Gerald Graff, *Professing Literature: An Institutional History* (1987)

Peter Uwe Hohendahl, *The Institution of Criticism* (1982)

Frank Lentricchia, *After the New Criticism* (1980)

Francis Mulhern, *The Moment of Scrutiny* (1979)

Gayatri Spivak, *Outside in the Teaching Machine* (1993)

Gauri Viswanathan, *Masks of Conquest: Literary Study and British Rule in India* (1989)

Samuel Weber, *Institution and Interpretation* (1987)

René Wellek, *A History of Modern Criticism 1750-1950*, 5 vols. (1955-87)